

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
BUREAU OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**

**SUBSTANTIVE POLICY STATEMENT
#SP-079-PHS-EMS**

**Interpretation of the EMT Certification Prerequisites for the Arizona EMT-I Course and the
Arizona EMT-P Course**

This substantive policy statement is advisory only. A substantive policy statement does not include internal procedural documents that only affect the internal procedures of the agency and does not impose additional requirements or penalties on regulated parties or include confidential information or rules made in accordance with the Arizona Administrative Procedure Act. If you believe that this substantive policy statement does impose additional requirements or penalties on regulated parties, you may petition the agency under Arizona Revised Statutes § 41-1033 for a review of the statement.

The purpose of this substantive policy statement is to notify the public how the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) interprets the EMT certification prerequisites for enrollment in the Arizona EMT-I Course, defined in A.A.C. R9-25-307, and the Arizona EMT-P Course, defined in A.A.C. R9-25-308.

For the Arizona EMT-I Course, A.A.C. R9-25-307(B)(2) requires the prerequisites identified in the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) EMT-Intermediate: National Standard Curriculum (1999), which provides: “EMT or EMT-Basic certification is the only one prerequisites [sic] for the EMT-Intermediate curriculum.”

For the Arizona EMT-P Course, A.A.C. R9-25-308(B)(2)(a) requires the prerequisites identified in the NHTSA EMT-Paramedic: National Standard Curriculum (1998), which provides: “There are two prerequisites for the Paramedic curriculum: EMT-Basic and Anatomy and Physiology. . . . It has been a long held tradition to use EMT-Basic certification as a prerequisite for more advanced EMS education, and this curriculum continues that tradition.”

ADHS believes that the purpose of the prerequisite requirements, as contained in both the ADHS rules and the National Standard Curricula, is to ensure that a student enrolled in an EMT-I or EMT-P course has already attained at least the knowledge and skills of an EMT-B. ADHS does not believe that the prerequisite requirements are intended to limit enrollment to only individuals who hold current EMT-B certification issued by ADHS.

In light of this, ADHS interprets the EMT certification prerequisites to mean that an individual may enroll in the Arizona EMT-I Course or the Arizona EMT-P course if the individual holds current certification, issued by ADHS or the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians, at the EMT-B level or a higher level.

***Effective June 1, 2006
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